

Border Eagle

Laughlin Air Force Base, Texas ... Together we 'XL'



Air Power

Quote of the Week

“Air power is indivisible. If you split it up into compartments, you pull it to pieces.”

—Bernard Montgomery

Vol. 50, No. 37

www.laughlin.af.mil

Sept. 27, 2002

Officers salute base enlisted members

By Senior Airman
Brad Pettit
Editor

Laughlin officers will salute enlisted troops from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday during Enlisted Appreciation Day, an annual recognition to honor the contributions made by stripe-wearing members of the base community.

It's a day dedicated to the Laughlin enlisted force to show our appreciation for everything they do, said 2nd Lt. Zan Sproles, EAD chairperson.

Various sporting activities are planned. A mountain bike race will be held from 10:45 to 11:30 a.m. beginning at the water tower; a softball

game is scheduled from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Liberty Field; a bowling tournament will be held from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Cactus Bowling Lanes; and a basketball tournament is scheduled from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the XL Fitness Center.

A picnic is scheduled for 3:30 p.m. at base picnic grounds. Free food will be served, and the CGOC will deliver food to the workplaces of those enlisted troops not able to attend. Call Lieutenant Sproles at 703-9160 to place an order.

“Everyone should come out, relax and have a good time,” said Lieutenant Sproles. “You deserve it.”



Photo by Dave Niebergall

Those who went before

Laughlin honor guard members fold the American and POW/MIA flags at a POW/MIA Day ceremony Sept. 20 in front of the 47th Flying Training Wing headquarters building. Retired Col. James Lamar, who was a prisoner of war in Hanoi from May 1966 to February 1973, was the event's guest speaker. A T-38 flyover was also performed during the ceremony.

Combined Federal Campaign kicks off at Laughlin

Compiled from staff reports

The 47th Flying Training Wing began its six-week Combined Federal Campaign Monday with a goal of 100-percent employee contact.

The CFC is an avenue through which all federal employees can voluntarily express their concerns for others by donating to local, state, national or international charities. Employees have the right to contribute or not contribute – donations are 100

percent voluntary.

The CFC raises money for more than 2,000 causes and charities including medical research, children's charities, environmental organizations and disaster relief agencies. People can direct their support to charities that focus on issues they deeply care about.

Col. Dan Woodward, 47th Flying Training Wing commander, said the CFC fundraising campaign is impor-

tant for improving the quality of life in the Air Force and the community.

“CFC is an important opportunity for our federal civilian employees and military members to give back to Del Rio and Laughlin,” he said. About one quarter of what is contributed goes back to the community.”

The campaign will continue through Nov. 1. Organizations are reminded that no other fundraising efforts are permitted to take place on

base while the CFC is in progress.

For more information or to donate, people should contact their unit key workers.

Wing staff agencies:

Capt. Stuart Rubio – 298-4705

47th Mission Support Group:

Roberto Barrera – 298-5620

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10 weeks



Commanders' Corner

By Col. Victor Hnatiuk

47th Mission Support Group commander

Grandma Hnatiuk taught leadership lessons

In searching for some inspiration and motivation to write this article, I asked myself... "Vic, who was inspirational and motivational in your life?" Obviously, like you, many people have influenced me and helped guide me along my 45 years of this life's journey. But I always viewed Grandma Hnatiuk and her approach to life as unique, and I hope you do too.

Grandma Hnatiuk did not have much formal education. She married my Grandfather when she was young and they immigrated to Canada during the early part of the past century. My Grandfather worked on building the Canadian transcontinental railway. Then, when that work ended, they headed south and eventually settled in New Jersey. There weren't many immigration officials those days up on the U.S./Canadian border. So, unaware of what to do, Grandma and Grandpa just basically walked over the border.

After awhile, they eventually became naturalized citizens and got all the paperwork straight. But, in her latter years, the family always kidded Grandma that she was possibly the oldest living illegal alien in the U.S. – in reference to her less-than-official border crossing. We thought it was funny, but Grandma actually worried that the "Feds" might pull up to the door and drag away a 96-year-old lady someday. Although said in good humor, it actually hurt me to see her reaction. Grandma was, no kidding, scared that she might be deported someday. In her mind, she and Grandpa made a mistake, and there still could be some consequences for that mistake.

So, the lessons I took away from that one was respect the law and the rules – it's serious business. And with poor choices many times come tough consequences. In

Grandma's case, it was the fear (albeit ridiculous in our minds, but very real in hers) that someday a knock would come on the door. So play by the rules and try to make good choices – you'll certainly sleep better at night.

As time passed, I found myself listening and observing Grandma more and picking up many other "gems" from her. One day, while visiting my grandparents, they got into a heated discussion on whether they should go to the parish picnic. Grandpa never liked to go anywhere, but Grandma was a social butterfly. Even as a young child, I could always tell when they were getting into a "serious" discussion because they started conversing in Ukrainian versus English. Eventually the discussion went back to English and I heard Grandpa say, with his Ukrainian accent, "Ah, who need it picnic?" Grandma, all 95 pounds of her, stood up and replied, in her equally Ukrainian accent "I need it picnic – you never go anywhere."

She was right, Grandpa never did go anywhere! So she called some friends and off they went to the picnic. Bottom line – she stuck to her guns, tried to work a compromise, but believed in her heart it was the right thing to do. Grandpa got over it. The lesson here is trust your gut, stand by your cause when your cause is just – with right comes might!

After Grandpa died, Grandma eventually moved to South Carolina and went to live with one of her daughters on the beach at Fripp Island. I was a young captain at the time flying RF-4s at Bergstrom Air Force Base. My wife, Duff, was working a new job and had no vacation accrued. I, on the other hand, had some use-or-lose leave to burn. I called my brother and suggested

we meet at Fripp Island for a few days and surprise Grandma, knowing that this visit might be the last time we saw her.

Of course, we went and had a wonderful time with her. During one of my walks with her on the beach, I asked her what I could do for her, what she needed from the family or me. She looked at me and said, "Victor, all I want is to never be forgotten." Translation for you and me – be an impact player. Don't be the forgotten one. When it is time for you to leave your unit, you want everyone talking about you and all the great things you accomplished for your people. My hope for all of us is that long after we have left our Air Force, hopefully someone, somewhere will be using some skill or technique we taught them. And as that technique is passed down to future generations of airman, a small piece of us goes with them.... and we are not forgotten.

Well, it is September again, time to fill out the leave slip and burn some use or lose leave. It is this time of year that I miss her the most. No more trips to Fripp Island on the agenda. Grandma lived a full and healthy life. She respected the rules, stood firm when she was right and above all was the heart and soul of our family. She taught us so many lessons about how to live your life well. And because she did, Grandma lives in each and every member of our family today.

So Grandma, as you can see, I didn't forget you, simply because I couldn't. You were and still are the number one impact player on the Hnatiuk family team. I hope you liked the article. You always loved reading about your Grandchildren when we were in the paper. By the way, how are the picnics up there?



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Staff writer

The Border Eagle is published every Friday, except the first week in January and the last week in December, by the Del Rio News Herald, a private firm in no way connected with the U. S. Air Force, under exclusive written contract with the 47th Flying Training Wing, Laughlin Air Force Base, Texas.

This civilian enterprise Air Force newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. military services.

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Editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the Public Affairs Office of the 47th Flying Training Wing. All photographs are Air Force photographs unless otherwise indicated.

Deadlines, Advertising

News for the Border Eagle should be submitted to the 47th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs Office, Bldg. 338, Laughlin AFB, TX, 298-5262. **Copy deadline is close of business each Thursday the week prior to publication.**

Advertising should be submitted to the Del Rio News-Herald, 2205 Bedell, Del Rio, TX, 774-4611. Advertising should be submitted by 4 p.m. each Friday.

Submissions can be e-mailed to:
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timothy.stein@laughlin.af.mil

***“Excellence –
not our goal, but
our
standard.”***

– 47th FTW motto

ORI not business as usual

By Col. Dan Woodward
47th Flying Training Wing commander

Last weekend nearly 1,700 people participated in the sixth annual Air Force Marathon at Wright Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio. Several Laughlin members took up the 26.2-mile challenge, and Capt. Lisa Firestone, 47th Medical Group, came home with bragging rights for finishing 25th in the women’s category overall, seventh in the military women’s category and fifth in her age group.

I’m sure that everyone, from the first-time

marathon runner to the veteran, planned well, set their sights on a goal and dedicated time and training to prepare to meet those goals. Those are the same steps all Team XL members need to take as we prepare for our upcoming Operational Readiness Inspection.

These next few months will not be “business as usual” for

Laughlin. In addition to meeting the daily mission, we’ll need to focus additional effort and energy to prepare our work centers for inspection. It may require working longer hours than usual, or saying “No” in some cases to those tasks that could be accomplished after the inspection. Leaders and supervisors may have to make some tough calls, and co-workers will definitely need to pull together to make the right things happen for their units.

In my change-of-command speech, I said there would be some times that I would need for everyone in the wing to “peak.” Over the next couple of months, we will all be working together to reach that peak by Dec. 8.

Take time now to adopt the proper mindset. Pay attention to the small details, not only as they pertain to your work center, but in areas like dress and appearance and customs and courtesies as well. As we count down the weeks to the ORI, you’ll see information printed in the Border Eagle outlining tips for preparing for the inspection and directing key areas on which to focus.

Although the main inspection doesn’t begin until Dec. 8, the rules of engagement will take effect beginning Nov. 17, when the first inspectors will

arrive to evaluate our instructor pilots on their check ride procedures. As those inspectors walk around Laughlin, they’ll be forming their first impressions, and we want them to be impressed!

With more than 240 aircraft, Laughlin houses the world’s largest operational military aircraft fleet and

is one of the busiest military airfields in the U.S. An aircraft takes off from our airfield every minute on the average duty day.

What you make happen every day is nothing short of amazing and I get to see our stellar team of military and civilian personnel in action every day.

Let me say “thank you” in advance for all of the effort you put forth every day to accomplish our mission of “Training the World’s Best Pilots.” The ORI is your chance to shine for the command. The ORI is your chance to show our headquarters what “Team XL” is all about.

Let’s go to work.

“In my change-of-command speech, I said there would be some times that I would need for everyone in the wing to ‘peak.’ Over the next couple of months, we will all be working together to reach that peak by Dec. 8.

*– Col. Dan Woodward
47th Flying Training Wing commander*

Actionline 298-5351

This column is one way to work through problems that haven’t been solved through normal channels. By leaving your name and phone number, you are assured of a timely personal reply. It’s also very useful in case more information is needed in order to pursue your inquiry. If you give your name, we will make every attempt to ensure confidentiality when appropriate.

If your question relates to the general interest of the people of Laughlin, the question and answer may also be printed in the Border Eagle.

Before you call the Actionline, please try to work the problem out through the normal chain of command or directly with the base agency involved.

Thanks for your cooperation, and I look forward to reading some quality ideas and suggestions.



Col. Dan Woodward
47th Flying Training Wing commander

AAFES	298-3176
Accounting and Finance	298-5204
Civil Engineer	298-5252
Civilian Personnel	298-5299
Commissary	298-5815
Dormitory manager	298-5213
Equal Employment Opportunity	298-5879
FWA hotline	298-4170
Hospital	298-6311
Housing	298-5904
Information line	298-5201
Legal	298-5172
Military Equal Opportunity	298-5400
Military Personnel	298-5073
Public Affairs	298-5988
Security Forces	298-5900
Services	298-5810

Border Eagle commentaries

The Border Eagle encourages base members to take part in their paper. Anyone wanting to write a commentary for the Viewpoint pages of the paper is welcome.

Commentaries can be written about any aspect of Air Force life you find interesting. Commentaries should be 250 to 500 words in length. Public Affairs reserves the right to edit all sub-

missions for length and clarity.

Commentaries for the Border Eagle should be submitted to the Public Affairs Office, Bldg. 338. The deadline to submit a commentary is close of business each Thursday, the week prior to publication.

For more information, guidelines or help, call 298-5393.

Airmanship

Intended to help all airmen articulate the Air Force’s vision of aerospace power

Area of Responsibility

An area of responsibility, or more often AOR, is a defined geographic space directly associated with particular combatant commands. The combatant commander has the authority to plan and conduct operations in this space.

Interested in the Air Force? Call Del Rio’s Air Force recruiter at 774-0911.

Newslines

AFA meeting

Del Rio-Laughlin Chapter 358 of the Air Force Association will meet at 5 p.m. Monday in the Daedalian Room of Club XL. All members and interested people are encouraged to attend and learn more about the only professional organization that supports members of all ranks.

For more information, call 298-5835.

Excess base housing

Excess junior enlisted two-bedroom housing is currently available. To apply for base housing, you must be married, getting married, have a dependent child or a family member with an identification card as your legal dependent.

For details, call Jo Ann Nielsen at 298-5733.

Santa Claus visit

Santa Claus will visit the base exchange at 11 a.m. Saturday to celebrate the BX Toyland opening. Parents are encouraged to bring their children to the BX to get their photo taken with Santa.

For details, call Sue Roy at 298-3176.

ORI preparation

Government Purchase Cards – Are GPC holders coordinating with specified agencies when purchasing items such as visual information, potential hazardous materials and communication and computer equipment and software in accordance with AFI 64-117, paragraph 2.3? Do all non-expendable equipment assets over \$2,500 that are purchased on existing contracts with the GPC have accountability records established through base supply?

Supply accounts – You should review it like your paycheck depended on it. Can you account for every item on the CA/CRL? Are there items on the CA/CRL that can't be accounted for? Ask now if you're not getting the support you need. Do a complete inventory.

MPF, customer service

In an effort to streamline hours of operations and training schedules and to provide customers one-stop service, the MPF and Finance customer service counters will be collocated beginning Monday. As a result of this merger, the new MPF/Finance customer service hours of operation are as follows: Monday through Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and Wednesday from 7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. for in-house training.

Phone numbers will not change.



Photo by Dave Niebergall

Ready, set, go!

(From left) Chip Faver, 47th Services Division, announces the beginning of a tricycle drag race between Chief Master Sgt. Stephen Enyeart, 47th Flying Training Wing command chief master sergeant, and Col. Ken Smith, 47th FTW commander, at the 2002 Sock Hop Sept. 20 here. The 47th Services Division sponsored the 50s era morale and recreation event.

'CFC,' from page 1

47th Medical Group:

Tech. Sgt. Michele Shirey – 298-6318

47th Operations Group:

1st Lt. Dave Fazenbaker – 298-5124

47th Operations Support Squadron:

Staff Sgt. Stewart Montei – 298-5759

84th Flying Training Squadron:

1st Lt. Ryan Addams – 298-5726

85th Flying Training Squadron:

1st Lt. Jamie Nordin – 298-5243

86th Flying Training Squadron:

1st Lt. Wes Stark – 298-5443

87th Flying Training Squadron:

1st Lt. Rachel Platz – 298-5383

47th Contracting Squadron:

2nd Lt. Tracy Stroud – 298-5992

47th Civil Engineer Squadron:

Master Sgt. James Martin – 298-5406

47th Security Forces Squadron:

Staff Sgt. Jessica Summerlin – 298-4296

47th Communications Squadron:

Heidi Poteat – 298-4211

47th Mission Support Squadron:

2nd Lt. Kendra Lowe – 298-5487

47th Services Division:

2nd Lt. Monica Mahoney – 298-4928

47th Aeromedical Dental Squadron:

Staff Sgt. Jerry Dunn – 298-6429

47th Medical Support Squadron:

Tech. Sgt. Michele Shirey – 298-6318

47th Medical Operations Squadron:

Staff Sgt. Timothy Lantgen – 298-6362

47th FTW Maintenance Division:

Andrew McCullough – 298-5290

47th FTW Maintenance Division:

Ted Jenkins – 298-5695

Interested in the Air Force? *Call Del Rio's Air Force recruiter at 774-0911.*

Mission complete: SUPT Class 02-15 graduates today

Compiled from staff reports

Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 02-15 graduates at 10 a.m. today in the Anderson Hall auditorium.

The 52-week SUPT program prepares student pilots for the spectrum of Air Force aircraft and flying missions.

Training begins with three weeks of physiological and academic training to prepare students for flight.

The second phase, primary training, is conducted in the twin-engine, subsonic T-37 “Tweet.”

After primary training, the future pilots are selected for advanced in-flight training in a specialized track.

The tracks include tanker and cargo aircraft training in the T-1 aircraft; fighter/bomber training in the T-38; turbo propeller aircraft training in the Navy’s T-44; and helicopter training in the Army’s UH-1. Advanced training in a track takes about 26 weeks.

Graduates of Class 02-15 have been assigned to aircraft at duty stations throughout the world.



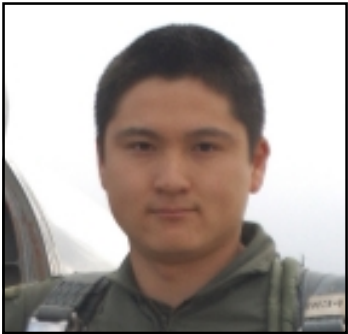
1st Lt. Matthew Harting
E-3, Tinker Air Force Base, Okla.
(Class leader)



2nd Lt. Charles Kistler IV
T-38, Laughlin AFB
(Assistant class leader)



2nd Lt. Andrew Fessenden
F-15, Otis, Vt. (ANG)



1st Lt. Masataka Tadano
T-2, Matushima Air Base, Japan



1st Lt. Masato Watanabe
T-2, Matushima AB, Japan



2nd Lt. Jayvin Arbore
C-17, McChord AFB, Wash.



2nd Lt. Ryan Ayers
C-21, Andrews AFB, Md.



2nd Lt. Thomas Cervini
KC-135, McGuire AFB, N.J.



2nd Lt. Trace Dotson
KC-10, Travis AFB, Calif.



2nd Lt. John Flint
F-16, Burlington, Utah (ANG)



2nd Lt. Colleen French
T-1, Laughlin AFB



2nd Lt. Daniel Gasper
C-17, McChord AFB, Wash.



2nd Lt. Benjamin Kaminsky
T-37, Laughlin AFB



2nd Lt. Nicholas Kreiser
C-17, Charleston AFB, S.C.



2nd Lt. Neil Poppe
KC-135, McConnell AFB, Kan.



2nd Lt. Desmond Powell
KC-10, McGuire AFB, N.J. (AFRES)



2nd Lt. William Soto
KC-135, Kadena AB, Japan



2nd Lt. Michael Stock
A-10, Davis-Monthan AFB, Ariz.



2nd Lt. Aubrey Venable
F-16C, Luke AFB, Ariz.

Airmen complete two-week beginners' course

Compiled from
staff reports

Sixteen new airmen graduated from Laughlin's First-Term Airmen Center in a ceremony at the Fiesta Community Center Sept. 20.

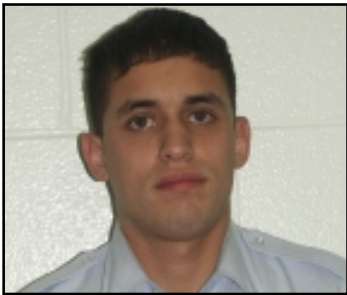
The two-week course is designed to transition first-term, first-duty-station airmen from training to a mis-

sion-oriented environment, said Tech. Sgt. Eric Maye, FTAC coordinator.

"FTAC provides a means of in-processing airmen with a solid foundation of base and [auxiliary] training programs and briefing in order to prepare them to become mission-ready airmen in a minimum amount of time," said he said.

This is accomplished by reinforcing lessons airmen learn in basic and technical training through briefings on various topics such as financial planning, fitness, career progression, dress and appearance and benefits.

"It's an honor to welcome these new airman to the Laughlin family," said Sergeant Maye.



Airman 1st Class
Jacob Rivera (Class leader)
47th Operations Support Squadron



Airman 1st Class
Kevin Bombara
47th Communications Squadron



Airman 1st Class
Edwin Daroca
47th Communications Squadron



Airman 1st Class
Steven Hardy
47th Operations Support Squadron



Airman 1st Class Chae Pak
47th Civil Engineer Squadron



Airman 1st Class Clay Toerner
47th Operations Support Squadron



Airman David Althoff
47th Operations Support Squadron



Airman Briana Barnhart
47th Security Forces Squadron



Airman Garrett Boyce
47th Security Forces Squadron



Airman Weylin Brown
47th Civil Engineer Squadron



Airman David Dominguez
47th Communications Squadron



Airman Christopher Morrison
47th Civil Engineer Squadron



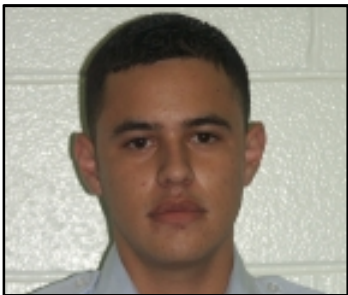
Airman Michael Nadzieja
47th Communications Squadron



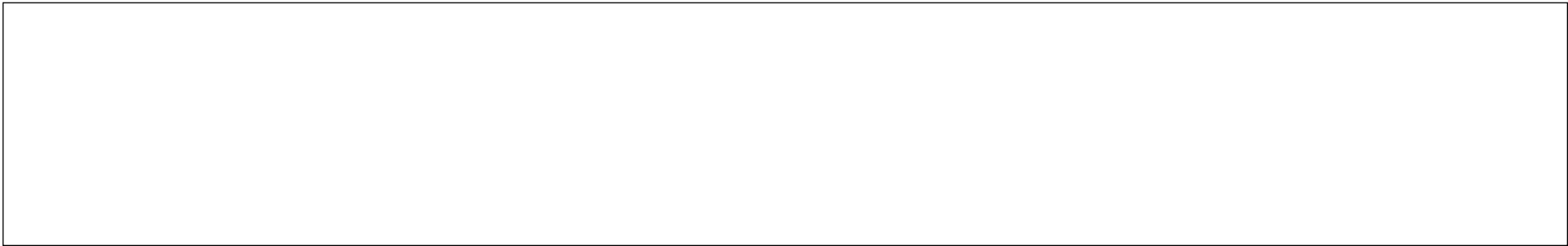
Airman Paul Oceanak Jr.
47th Operations Support Squadron



Airman Debra Ramirez
47th Aeromedical Dental Squadron



Airman Basic Israel Revuelta
47th Services Division



350 base people to have travel cards canceled

Compiled from staff reports

In early October, the Bank of America will cancel approximately 350 government travel cards issued to Laughlin people.

This move, said Tech. Sgt. Robert Van, 47th Comptroller Flight customer support chief, is part of a servicewide effort to “clean up the books” and will affect those people who have not used their card for a year or more.

“More than 100,000 of the Air Force’s government travel cards will be canceled due to infrequent use,” he said.

He added that precautions are in place to ensure no one is caught empty-handed in a time of need.

“In the event that you have a TDY or PCS after your card has been canceled, you may reapply through your squadron agency program coordinator.”

Michael Weber, Air Force travel card bookkeeper, said no person will be left stranded by the change.

“If for some reason an individual didn’t hear about this (policy) and is checking into a hotel and the card is rejected, (he or she) can always have

the hotel staff call the number on the back of the card to have the bank override the transaction. We can force authorize restaurants, rental cars and airline tickets, but not automatic teller machines.”

The actions come as a result of a recent task force formed in response to congressional hearings on government credit cards. The task force confirmed that the Department of Defense has too many cards in the hands of people who are not using them, Weber said.

The Air Force has the largest travel card program in the Department of Defense with approximately 532,000 travel cards issued, or 37 percent of the DOD total, according to Weber.

“It’s not as bad as it appears on the surface. A lot of these cards are already expired,” he said. “We estimate that out of the 100,000 cards (subject to cancellation), 80,000 of them are expired or unused.” The card cancellations, set to begin Oct. 3, will help the Air Force and Bank of America clean up their databases, Weber said. Those who have their card canceled but still need one for Air Force travel will have to go through a re-application process. New applications should be available in September on the Web.

“This could inconvenience some people, but we know of no easy way to do it,” he said.

Commanders and agency program coordinators will receive lists in early September of cards expected to be canceled. If anyone on the list is traveling in the near future, he or she can call the bank to get an authorized override on the account. It will still require a phone call by the merchant at the point of purchase.

The government travel card remains an integral part of the Defense Travel System and represents the best option for Air Force travelers, Weber said.

“I still get people who tell me they don’t like the travel card,” he said. “But I’ve yet to have someone suggest a more modern way to travel.”

Furthermore, Weber said, the proper use of the card relates to military readiness.

“If we need you to travel and you don’t have a card, your travel will have to be handled special,” he said. “We no longer have the manpower or facilities to do that for a person.

“Gone are the days when we had people in uniform behind a counter, looking at your orders and handing out cash. The travel card helps the Air Force to use manpower in more pressing areas, such as the war on terrorism.”

Laughlin implements motorcycle safety initiatives

By Airman
Yvonne Conde
Staff writer

Laughlin has instituted new motorcycle safety initiatives mandated by the commander of Air Education Training and Command to curb the sharp increase of Air Force motorcycle fatalities.

“Recent motorcycle mishaps and resulting fatalities are indeed alarming and require immediate attention by commanders and motorcycle owners,” said Gen. Donald Cook, AETC commander, in a recent letter to commanders.

A motorcycle fatality earlier this year ended more than a decade of fatality-free motorcycle accidents at Laughlin.

“Air Force motorcycle

mishaps resulted in 12 more [deaths] than last year at this time,” said Maj. Russ Mack, 47th Flying Training Wing safety chief.

As part of the initiatives, the Laughlin Motorcycle Education for New Age Cycle Enthusiasts logo was created to build esprit de corps among all motorcyclists.

“Riding a bike is a privilege, and we want people to enjoy it,” said Major Mack.

The second part of the initiatives is the establishment of a motorcycle mentorship program. Qualified motorcycle riders, people who ride more than 3,000 miles a year, will be coupled with newer riders.

“Within each unit, we need to find that niche,” said

See ‘Safety,’ page 8



Photo by Airman Yvonne Conde

Senior Airman Sean Campbell, 47th Medical Support Squadron diagnostic imaging journeyman, meets all motorcycle safety

equipment standards by ensuring all proper motorcycle attire is in place and protective gloves are secure before setting off.

Base company grade officers attend Stars and Bars event

By Airman 1st Class
Timothy J. Stein

Staff writer

Twelve officers from Laughlin's Company Grade Officers Council attended the 10th Annual San Antonio Area Stars and Bars Dining-In at Lackland Air Force Base's Gateway Club Sept. 12.

Gen. Donald G. Cook, Air Education and Training Command commander, was the guest speaker for the event, a joint-service dining-in designed to allow company grade officers a chance to interact with senior leadership.

Approximately 300 people attended the dining-in, at which each table was joined by an active or retired flag or general officer from any one of the services.

The evening began with the presentation of the colors and the execution of the honors to the POW/MIA table by a joint service

honor guard.

General Cook spoke about core values and learning from mistakes. He said not to be afraid to step out of your comfort zone and try new things. He mentioned he learned more from his failures than from his successes and challenged the CGOs to seek out mentors, telling them not to wait for mentors to approach them. He said if you follow the core values and enjoy what you do, the promotions will come.

The words from the senior leaders were not lost on some of the younger officers in attendance.

"I was grateful to have had the pleasure of sharing time with such legendary and extraordinary people,"

said 2nd Lt. Sandra Culpepper, 47th Contracting Squadron contracting manager. "I was even more impressed that they took the time to come and impart their wisdom on tomorrow's future warrior leaders. I felt truly united with my military heritage."

Other Laughlin officers in attendance agreed with Lieutenant Culpepper.

"It truly was a wonderful event," said 2nd Lt. Lindsay Logsdon, 47th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs internal information chief. "It was amazing how the senior leadership took time to share their experiences with us. You sometimes forget generals used to be company grade officers like we are now. It proves anything

can be accomplished with hard work and determination."

To prove to the younger officers in the room this was true, photos of the generals as CGOs were projected. The current CGOs in attendance had to try to guess whose photo it was.

The evening ended with a performance by the Gateway Brass, the Air Force Band of the West. Everyone in attendance received a Stars and Bars coin commemorating the event.

The front of the coin has the Texas style CGOC emblem in the center and the words Stars and Bars 2002. The back of the coin features the crests of all five services and the Roman numeral X encircled in purple, to represent the joint world, with the words "A Decade of Excellence: Uniting Our Heritage," which was the theme for the evening.



Photo by Airman 1st Class Timothy J. Stein

It all checks out...

Rudy Sanchez, 47th Flying Training Wing Maintenance Division aircraft mechanic, goes over the final preflight check with Maj. Tom Ellis, flight commander of Randolph Air Force Base's 415th Flight Test Flight, before takeoff Wednesday. Major

Ellis was taking Laughlin's last white T-38 Talon to the depot at Randolph for modifications and a new camouflage-green paint job. During the past two years, Laughlin's entire T-38 fleet has been sent to Randolph to receive the new paint job.

'Safety,' from page 7

Major Mack. "The cohesion and esprit de corps will come in when we can marry people up the right way."

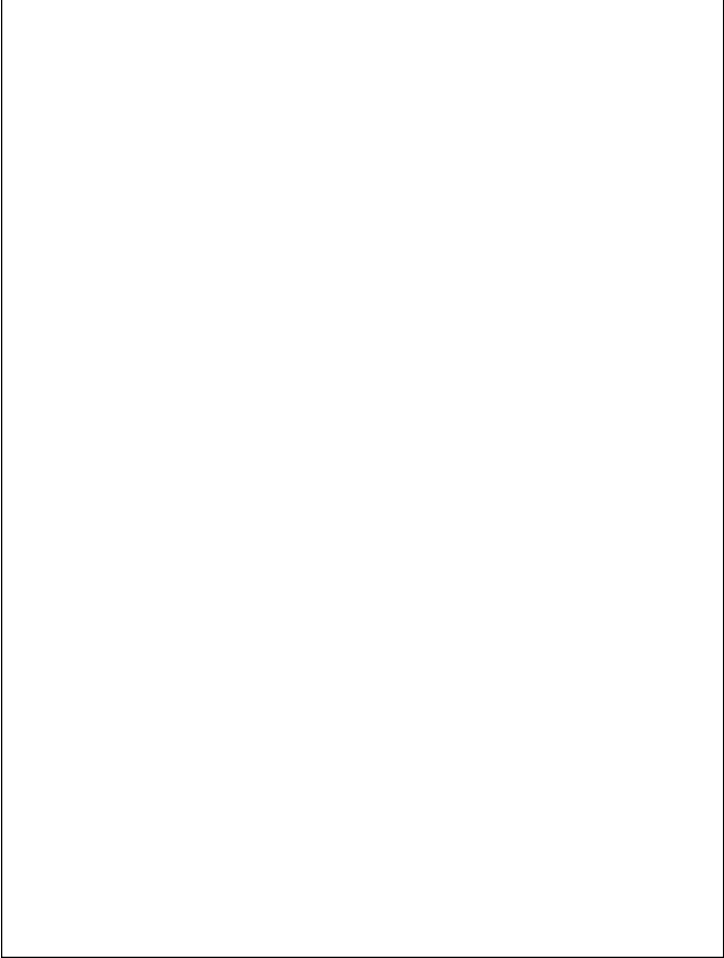
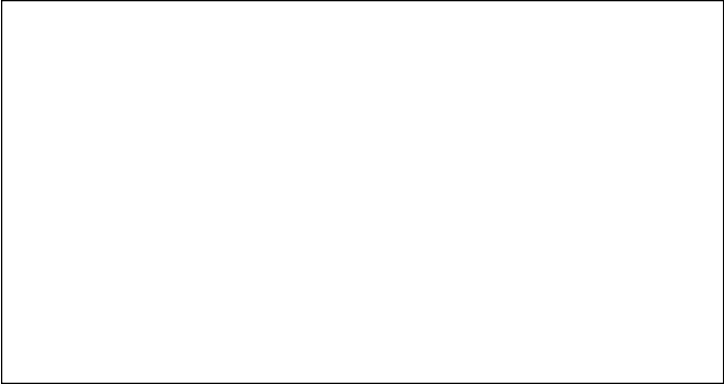
The third initiative requires unit motorcycle representatives to hold monthly motorcycle meeting to ensure they are current on read files and to discuss motorcycle safety.

The Laughlin home page will provide a link for all active-duty and civilian motorcyclists to locate information needed to operate a motorcycle on- and off-base, such as proper attire, safety guides and rules of the road.

The Web page will also include a link to the AETC Safety Web page as well as other links that provide significant motorcycle information and best practices.

"These initiatives have allowed us to get the word out about what the motorcycle program really is here," said Major Mack. "There are a lot of conflicting guidelines out there right now about what's required, all the way from training to what they are supposed to wear. We just want to get everybody on the same sheet of music here."

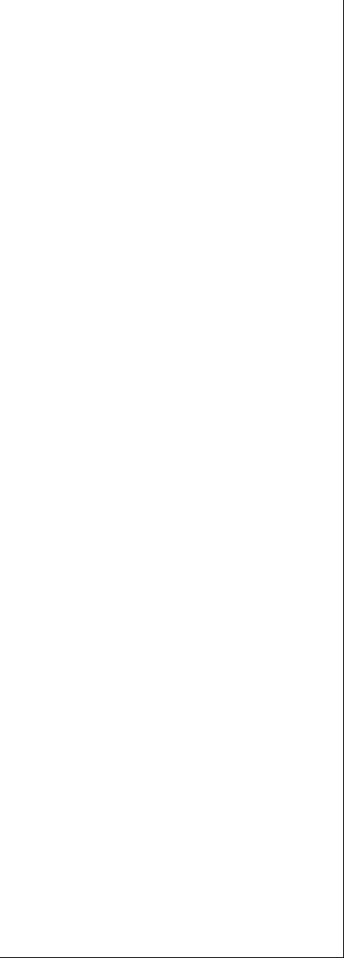
On a quarterly basis, all Laughlin motorcyclists will get together to promote the fun side of motorcycling and give people a chance to talk about their "toys," he said. "We hope to foster a safe and smart motorcycle program with safer motorcycle riders; no incidents, no accidents and no deaths."



(Courtesy photo)

Deployed

Airman 1st Class Carrie Staugler, 47th Security Forces Squadron information manager, and Airman 1st Class Wesley Ransom, 47th Contracting Squadron specialist, are deployed to Al Dhafra, United Arab Emirates. Currently, 42 Laughlin people are deployed to various locations throughout the world.



Chapel
Schedule



Catholic

- Saturday • 5 p.m., Mass
Sunday • 9:30 a.m., Mass
• 11 a.m., Little Rock Scripture Study in Chapel Fellowship Hall
Thursday • 6 p.m., Choir
Reconciliation • By appointment
Religious Education • 11 a.m. Sunday

Jewish

- Call Max Stool at 775-4519

Muslim

- Call Mostafa Salama at 768-9200

Nondenominational

- Friday • 7 p.m., Unity in Community Services
Every day • 12 to 1 p.m., sweet hour of prayer

Protestant

- Saturday • 6 p.m., Singles Bible study
Sunday • 9:30 to 10:30 a.m., Sunday school
• 11 a.m., General worship
• 6 p.m., Officer Christian Fellowship, call 298-2238 for details.
Wednesday • 10 a.m., Women’s Bible study, children welcome
• 7 p.m., Choir at chapel

For more information on chapel events and services, call 298-5111.

The X^Ler



Photo by Airman Yvonne Conde

Staff Sgt. Charla Ferris

85th Flying Training Squadron aviation resource management NCOIC

Hometown: Jacksonville, Fla.

Family: Mother, Barbara Christian; father, Cecil Ferris; four brothers and four sisters

Time at Laughlin: 47 days

Time in service: 7 years, 11 months

Hobbies: Jogging, reading, cooking and indoor rock climbing

Favorite film: Return With Honor

Favorite musician: I enjoy all types of music



The Air Force rewards good ideas with money.

Check out the IDEA Program data system at <https://ideas.randolph.af.mil>, or call 298-5236.

Laughlin flight surgeon participates in Air Force marathon

By 2nd Lt. Lindsay Logsdon
Public affairs

At mile 22, where many runners hit “the wall,” Capt. Lisa Firestone, 47th Medical Group flight surgeon, stormed the final hill of the 26.2-mile Air Force Marathon and finished the race strong.

The Camarillo, Calif., native took part in the sixth annual marathon at Wright Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio, finishing 25th out of 421 women competitors, seventh out of military women and fifth out of her age group.

The marathon, held Saturday, was Captain Firestone’s sixth marathon run but her first Air Force Marathon.

She said the inspiration for tackling the grueling race came to her in her last year of medical school at The George Washington University, Washington D.C.

“[I ran] mostly just to get some time to spend outside, she said. I was dealing with lots of patients in the hospital that were sick and it was a way to make sure my body was healthy.”

Captain Firestone ran her first marathon, the “Rock n’ Roll Marathon,” in June, 2000, in San Diego. She started her training months prior to the race, running five to six days a week, varying the distance and time.

“In the beginning, you’re really excited to be there and you get swept up into all of it,” she said. “The first 10 miles go by fast before you realize, ‘hey I’m running this marathon.’ You end up playing all sorts of mind games [to] break distances up.”

Captain Firestone said the most challenging aspect of Saturday’s race was a hill between mile 22 and 23. She said that though it was challenging, this marathon meant a lot because of what it



(Courtesy photo)

Jeff Gibson, a 40-year-old from Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio, won the Air Force Marathon Saturday with a time of 2 hours, 42 minutes, 16 seconds. The race was composed of more than 2,800 Air Force, Army, Navy, Marines and civilian runners.

represented.

Last year, in the wake of September 11th, the Air Force Marathon was not held, but it made this year’s race mean more, she said.

Although the six-marathon veteran said she

wished that she had more time to train for the marathon, she found that the race was “pretty easy.”

“It gave me a chance to challenge myself and see if I could do it again,” she said.

Sportslines

Yoga classes

The health and wellness center is hosting prenatal yoga classes from noon to 1 p.m. Thursdays in the XL Fitness Center.

The classes will include a 10-minute introduction and warm up, 20-minute yoga/stretch, 15-minute strengthening/muscle toning and 15-minute relaxation techniques.

Classes are free.

The instructor has certifications in prenatal fitness, power stretch and yoga.

Participants should take comfortable clothing, a yoga mat, pillow and plenty of water to class.

For more information, call the HAWC at 298-6464.